

North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

NEWS RELEASE

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For more information, contact Icelandic State Park 701-265-4561

Bakke Featured at Icelandic State Park

North Dakota artist Karen Bakke, well known for her graphic design and painting, will be featured at Icelandic State Park from August 17th -24th. Bakke is featured as part of the Artist in Residency Program sponsored by the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department and North Dakota Council on the Arts.

During that week, Bakke will draw inspiration from the park and incorporate it into her art. She will host an art lecture on Saturday, August 24th from 1-3pm and attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a watercolor project to take home. The activities are open to the public with art materials provided and funded by the North Dakota Council on the Arts. The only cost involved is the state park entrance fee, which is \$5/vehicle or \$25 for the ND State Parks annual pass, which is valid through May 1, 2015.

Karen Bakke has been working as a professional artist for 38 years, 20 of it in graphic design and for the past 19 years her focus has been fine art in oil, acrylic and watercolor. Commissioned work accounts for approximately 85% of her art produced. Being proficient in a variety of mediums and subjects matter allows her to accommodate any project. She's worked on large murals, painting in hundreds of locations including churches, schools, museums, hospitals, daycares, retail stores and restaurants. Bakke resides in Fargo and is an active member of the Fargo Moorhead Visual Arts, Red River Watercolor Society, Portrait Society of America and The Arts Partnership in addition to her church and community.

Artists have played an important role in the history of North Dakota's state parks, assisting with defining the value of protecting natural resources, whether they are cultural, natural or recreational. It is the aim of the Artist in Residency Program that the experiences and art generated through this partnership allows the public to become stewards with a deeper appreciation of art inspired by the state parks of North Dakota.

All of North Dakota's state parks have hosted an artist since the program's inception in 2009. Visitors to all of the state parks can find art pieces generated by the program that celebrate both the state parks and local North Dakota artists.

Icelandic State Park is located five miles west of Cavalier, ND, on Highway 5, near the U.S./Canadian border. For additional information about the park, please visit www.parkrec.nd.gov or call the park at 701-265-4561.